GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2919
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
HARMFUL EFFECTS OF UREA AND CHEMICALS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any programme wherein the farmers are provided information about the negative effects of Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate and other harmful chemicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to provide the farmers information about Bio and organic manures which protect the fertility of fields; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through its various programmessuch as Field Level Demonstrations, trainings, kisan gosthies educate the farmers on the correct application of different fertilizers including urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate and Muriate of Potash. To ensure that there is no negative effect of any kind of excessive use of chemical fertilizers, the Government propagates Integrated Nutrient (INM) which includes soil test basedjudicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of nutrients. Besides, the average consumption of Fertilizers in the country is only 84.82 Kg/ha (during 2002-03). This level of consumption is not considered to cause negative effect on soil and water.

(d) & (e): The Government is promoting enhanced use of organic source of nutrients such as farm yard manure, compost, green manure, vermicompost and bio-fertilizers.

The Government has formulated a `National Project on Organic Farming` with an outlayof Rs.99.58 crores during Xth Plan. Under the project a `National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF)`, is to be set up for promotion of organic farming in the country.